



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

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## CATTLE ON FEED

### COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,010,000 head as of January 1, 2010. The latest inventory was down 5 percent from December 1, 2009 but up 1 percent from January 1, 2009. The inventory included 650,000 steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 355,000 head, are down 8 percent from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, no change from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 155,000 head of fed cattle during December 2009. This was 11 percent above November 2009 marketings of 140,000 head but no change from a year ago. An estimated 110,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during December 2009, 27 percent below a year ago and 33 percent below November 2009 placements of 165,000. Of the number placed in December, 23 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 27 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 27 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 23 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for December was estimated at 5,000 head, no change from last month and last year.

### UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on January 1, 2010. The inventory was 2 percent below January 1, 2009. The inventory included 6.88 million steers and steer calves, down 3 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.07 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.55 million, 6 percent below 2008. Net placements were 1.47 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 430,000, 600-699 pounds were 420,000, 700-799 pounds were 401,000, and 800 pounds. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.74 million, 4 percent above 2008. Other disappearance totaled 72,000 during December, 5 percent below 2008.